(b) The Railway has not so far received from the State Government/Local Authority any firm proposal for the facility, duly consenting to bear the cost, as per rules.

[*English*]

Purchase of Boeing 747

2983. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Boeing 747 in operation and the number of non-operational ones;

(b) whether the Government propose to purchase more Boeing 747 and if so, the number thereof; and

(c) when the new aircraft are likely to be received.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There are 11 Boeing 747 in the fleet of Air India and all are in operation.

(b) and (c) Air India has signed a purchase agreement for acquisition of four Boeing 747-400 aircraft which will be delivered in 1993 and 1994.

Part time Ticket Collectors in Bombay

2984. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether part time ticket collectors have been appointed by the Railways in Bombay;

(b) the percentage of commission being paid to them;

(c) the total amount collected under this scheme during this year, till date;

(d) whether the Government are implementing this scheme in all zones of the Railways;

(e) if so, the Zone-wise number of such employees at present and the amount collected as fine during 1991; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Some Railway employees volunteering to undertake ticket checking work beyond normal duty hours have been so detailed in Bombay area.

(b) They are paid honorarium varying from 20 to 35% for different slabs of their earnings from excess charge and unbooked luggage cases.

(c) A sum of Rs. 42.80 lakhs was collected during the period from April to October, 1991.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The scheme did not elicit a favourable response on other Railways.

Branch of UGC at Hyderabad

2985. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a branch of the University Grants Commission at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by which tim it is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c). UGC has taken a decision, in principle, to set up regional offices in different parts of the country. No decision on the location of these offices has been taken.

Expansion of AIIMs

2986. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences;

(b) if so, the estimated cost; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There are proposals for expansion of AIIMS by setting up a Screening OPD additional Private Ward, Surgical Block, Mortuary, an Animal House etc; at an estimated cost of Rs. 44 crores approximately during the 8th Plan period. The said expansion is proposed to be taken up in a phased manner and is likely to be completed before the end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

Increase in Rail Fares

2987. SHRI D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rail fare charges of narrow gaug rail line between Pathankot-Joginder Nagar on Northern Railway have been increased as compared to other narrow gauge lines; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Passenger fares on the Pathankot-Joginder Nagar section are charged on inflated distance which is 1/1/2 times of the actual distance.

The decision of inflate the distance was taken as it was found that the line would not be remunerative if fares and freight were charged on actual distance. Even with inflation in the distance for charge, Railways are incurring losses on this section. Such a method of inflating the actual distance is in vogue on some other unremunerative lines also irrespective of gauge.

Number of Practitioners in different systems of Medicine

2988. SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of specialists who are presently working in different Allopathic, Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine in CGHS dispensaries, dispensary wise;

(b) whether there is a shortage of specialists particularly in Homoeopathic system of medicine;

(c) if so, the steps being taken to appoint more senior homeopathic physicians in Delhi, New Delhi; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) A Statement is attached.